

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A vibration mounting comprising a base member for mounting to a mounting location and a support member for supporting a load, the vibration mounting having a centre-line in said load-bearing direction,

wherein the support member is spaced apart from the base member in a load-bearing direction by a vibration isolating element of a resilient material, which comprises a plurality of lobes on each side of a plane passing through said centre-line, wherein each lobe extends outwardly from a central portion of the vibration isolating element secured to the base member towards the support member and also extends in a lateral direction different from that of other lobes, and wherein each lobe has an upper surface engaging the support member and at least one free surface; and

wherein the vibration mounting comprises a low friction lateral buffer means including a buffer member being an arm of said support member extending from the support member towards the base member ~~between adjacent lobes of the vibration isolating element and~~, the buffer member being spaced by a gap from a contact plate affixed to ~~a resilient material secured to the base member~~ said central portion of the vibration isolating element.

wherein the buffer member contacts the contact plate when vibration displacements exceed a predetermined amplitude that causes said gap to close, and does not contact the contact plate when vibration displacements are less than the predetermined amplitude.

20. (Previously presented) The vibration mounting of claim 19, wherein each lobe extends in a lateral direction that is substantially orthogonal to the load-bearing direction.

21. (Previously presented) The vibration mounting of claim 19, wherein the vibration isolating element is secured to a raised portion of the base member, and the lobes extend at an angle to the base member, an outward end of each lobe engaging a corresponding portion of the support member.

22. (Previously presented) The vibration mounting of claim 21, wherein the corresponding portion of the support member is an end portion extending towards the base member that bears against an outer end surface of the corresponding lobe.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously presented) The vibration mounting of claim 19, wherein the vibration isolating element comprises an elastomeric polymer formed by injection moulding to the base member.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously presented) The vibration mounting of claim 19, wherein the contact plate comprises nylon or other suitable low friction material.

28. (Currently amended) The vibration mounting of claim 19, wherein the buffer member contacts the contact plate when vibration displacements exceed a predetermined amplitude in a first lateral direction.

29. (Currently amended) The vibration mounting of claim 28, further comprising a secondary buffer for further increasing resistance to displacement beyond a second predetermined amplitude of vibration displacement in the first lateral direction.

30. (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 28, including a further, load-bearing direction buffer for increasing resistance to displacement of the support member relative to the base member in the load-bearing direction.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 30, wherein, ~~in the load-bearing direction, the further~~ buffer comprises a first load-bearing-direction buffer for increasing resistance to a positive displacement beyond a positive displacement threshold and a second load-bearing-direction buffer for increasing resistance to a negative displacement beyond a negative displacement threshold.

33. (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 32, wherein the second load-bearing-direction buffer is provided as a failsafe feature to prevent the support member and the base member becoming detached from one another in the event of a failure of the vibration isolating element.

34. (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 19, wherein the mounting location has predetermined fastener positions for securing the base member, the vibration mounting being sized to fit onto the predetermined fastener positions.

35. (Previously Presented) The vibration mounting of claim 34, wherein the fastener positions are holes for accepting mounting bolts.

36. (Previously Presented) The vibration mounting of claim 34, wherein the lobes are arranged so as to allow access to, and not interfere with, the fastener positions.

37. (Currently Amended) A vibration mounting comprising a base member for mounting to a mounting location and a support member for supporting a load, the

support member being spaced apart from the base member in a load-bearing direction by a vibration isolating element of a resilient material,

wherein the vibration isolating element comprises a plurality of lobes, each lobe extending from the base member towards the support member and also extending in a lateral direction different from that of other lobes;

wherein the support member comprises a lateral buffer including at least one buffer member extending towards the base member between adjacent lobes of the vibration isolating element such that the buffer member contacts a resilient material buffer secured to the base member when vibration displacements exceed a first predetermined amplitude in a first lateral direction; and

wherein the base member includes an upwardly extending portion, which extends into the vibration isolating element, and a transverse pin member, secured to the support member, extends through openings in the upwardly extending portion of the base member and through an inverted U-shaped channel formed in the vibration isolating element underneath the upwardly extending portion of the base member.

~~wherein the vibration mounting further comprises a secondary buffer for further increasing resistance to displacement beyond a second predetermined amplitude of vibration displacement in the first direction.~~

38. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The vibration mounting of claim 37 further comprising:

~~a base member for mounting to a mounting location;~~

~~a support member for supporting a load, the support member being spaced apart from the base member in a load-bearing direction by a vibration isolating element of a resilient material, the vibration isolating element comprising a plurality of lobes extending from the base member towards the support member; and~~

a load-bearing direction buffer means comprising a first load-bearing direction buffer for increasing resistance to displacement of the support member relative to the base member in the load-bearing direction beyond a positive displacement threshold and wherein contact between said transverse pin and a top of said inverted U-shaped channel provides a second load-bearing direction for

increasing resistance to a negative displacement beyond a negative displacement threshold.

39. (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 38, wherein the second load-bearing direction buffer is provided as a failsafe feature to prevent the support member and the base member becoming detached from one another in the event of a failure of the vibration isolating element.

40. (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 38 wherein the vibration isolating element provides a first resistance to displacement of the support member relative to the base member in the load-bearing direction at displacements having a magnitude below said positive and negative displacement thresholds and a second, increased resistance at displacements above said thresholds.

41 (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 30, further comprising a ~~third~~ second lateral buffer for increasing resistance to displacements beyond a threshold displacement in a ~~third~~ second lateral direction.

42. (Currently Amended) The vibration mounting of claim 41, wherein the load-bearing, first lateral and ~~third~~ second lateral directions are substantially mutually orthogonal ~~directions~~ to one another.

43. (New) The vibration mounting of claim 37 wherein contact between the transverse pin member and a side of the inverted U-shaped channel provides a secondary lateral buffer in the first lateral direction.